

**ALEXANDER, Dorothy - The Mauricewood Devils (12 copies)**

A meticulously researched, semi-fictionalised account the Mauricewood pit disaster near Edinburgh of 1889 related by seven year-old Martha and her step-mother Jess. Their accounts are given in the aftermath of the death of Martha's father and 62 others in the accident. With many of the miners families left destitute, the women of Mauricewood undertake a campaign for compensation and justice against the criminally negligent pit owners with key figures of the day, such as Keir Hardie and William Gladstone, playing roles in the cause celebre. Alexander mixes historical fact and compelling fiction to create a gripping historical drama with a strong political resonance.

**ATKINSON, Kate - Life After Life (12 copies)**

What if you had the chance to live your life again and again, until you finally got it right? During a snowstorm in England in 1910, a baby is born and dies before she can take her first breath. During a snowstorm in England in 1910, the same baby is born and lives to tell the tale. What if there were second chances? And third chances? In fact an infinite number of chances to live your life? Would you eventually be able to save the world from its own inevitable destiny? And would you even want to? 'Life After Life' follows Ursula Todd as she lives through the turbulent events of the last century again and again. With wit and compassion, she finds warmth even in life's bleakest moments, and shows an extraordinary ability to evoke the past.

**BARKER, Pat - Toby's Room (12 copies)**

Toby and Elinor, brother and sister, friends and confidants, are sharers of a dark secret, carried from the summer of 1912 into the battlefields of France and wartime London in 1917.

**BARRY, Sebastian - A long long way (12 copies)**

One of the most vivid and realised characters of recent fiction, Willie Dunne is the innocent hero of Sebastian Barry's highly acclaimed novel. Leaving Dublin to fight for the Allied cause as a member of the Royal Dublin Fusiliers, he finds himself caught between the war playing out on foreign fields and that festering at home, waiting to erupt with the Easter Rising. Profoundly moving, intimate and epic, A Long Long Way charts and evokes a terrible coming of age, one too often written out of history.

**BRAGG, Melvyn - Grace and Mary (12 copies)**

John visits his ageing mother Mary in her nursing home by the sea, and mourns the slow fading of her mind. Hoping to shore up her memory, he prompts her with songs, photographs and questions about the 1940s, when she was a young woman and he a child in a small Cumbrian town. But he finds that most of all it is her own mother she longs for - Grace, the mother she barely knew. John sets out to recreate their buried family history, delving into the secrets and silences of Mary's fractured childhood as he imagines the life of her spirited mother.

**BRAY, Carys - A Song for Issy Bradley (12 copies)**

Sometimes however much you love someone, you can't understand them. Ian used to think that his life had been disappointingly easy, compared to the pioneers. He had a happy marriage, four children, a satisfactory job and, for just over a year, he has served the church in his role as Bishop of the local congregation, an enormous responsibility. And then Issy died. Now his wife, Claire, won't get out of their dead daughter's bottom bunk and she won't speak.

**BROOKS, Geraldine - Caleb's Crossing (9 copies)**

'Caleb's Crossing' is inspired by the little known story of the first native American to graduate from Harvard College in 1665.

**BURTON, Jessie - The Miniaturist (12 copies)**

On an autumn day in 1686, 18-year-old Nella Oortman knocks at the door of a grand house in the wealthiest quarter of Amsterdam. She has come from the country to begin a new life as the wife of illustrious merchant trader Johannes Brandt, but instead she is met by his sharp-tongued sister, Marin.

Only later does Johannes appear and present her with an extraordinary wedding gift: a cabinet-sized replica of their home. It is to be furnished by an elusive miniaturist, whose tiny creations mirror their real-life counterparts in unexpected ways. Nella is at first mystified by the closed world of the Brandt household, but as she uncovers its secrets she realizes the escalating dangers that await them all.

**CHEVALIER, Tracy - The Last Runaway (11 copies)**

When Quaker Honor Bright sails from Bristol with her sister, she is fleeing heartache for a new life in America, far from home. But tragedy leaves her alone and vulnerable, torn between two worlds and dependent on the kindness of strangers, and life in 1850s Ohio is precarious and unsentimental.

**CLARK, Stuart - The sky's dark labyrinth (12 copies)**

At the dawn of the seventeenth century Europe is a dark and dangerous place. As war rages across the continent and men's immortal souls are traded for mortal lives, two astronomers risk everything to reveal the truth behind the universe's grand design.

**CLEMENT, Jennifer - Prayers for the Stolen (12 copies)**

The Narcos only had to hear there was a pretty girl around and they'd sweep onto our lands in black SUVs and carry the girl off. Not one of the stolen girls had ever come back, except for Paula. She came back a year after she'd been kidnapped. She held a baby bottle in one hand. She wore seven earrings that climbed the cupped edge of her left ear in a line of blue, yellow, and green studs and a tattoo that snaked around her wrist. 'Did you see that? Did you see Paula's tattoo? My mother said. You know what that means, right? Jesus, Mary's son and Son of God, and the angels in heaven protect us all.' At the time, I didn't know what that meant. But I was going to find out.

**COLEMAN, Rowan - We are All Made of Stars (12 copies)**

Stella Carey has good reason to only work nights at the hospice where she is a nurse. Married to a war veteran who has returned from Afghanistan brutally injured, Stella leaves the house each night as Vincent locks himself away, unable to sleep due to post traumatic stress disorder. During her nights at the hospice, Stella writes letters for her patients, detailing their final wishes, thoughts and feelings - from how to use a washing machine, to advice on how to be a good parent - and posts them after their death. That is until Stella writes one letter that she feels compelled to deliver in time, to give her patient one final chance of redemption.

**COLM, Toibin - Brooklyn (12 copies)**

In a small town in the south-east of Ireland in the 1950s, Eilis Lacey is among many of her generation who cannot find work at home. So when she is offered a job in America, she leaves her family to start a new life in Brooklyn, New York.

**CRACE, Jim - Harvest (12 copies)**

A trio of outsiders - two men and a dangerously magnetic woman - arrives on the woodland borders and puts up a makeshift camp. That same night, the local manor house is set on fire. Over the course of 7 days, Walter Thirsk sees the harvest blackened by smoke and fear, the new arrivals cruelly punished, and his neighbours held captive on suspicion of witchcraft. But something even darker is at the heart of his story, and he will be the only man left to tell it.

**DAVIDSON, Julie - Looking for Mrs Livingstone (12 copies)**

This is the enthralling story of the extraordinarily courageous and stoical wife of the world-renowned explorer and missionary, David Livingstone.

**DIFFENBAUGH, Vanessa - The Language of flowers (7 copies)**

The Victorian language of flowers was used to express emotions: honeysuckle for devotion, azaleas for passion, and red roses for love. But for Victoria Jones, it has been more useful in communicating feelings like grief, mistrust and solitude.

**FERRARIS, Zoe - The Night of the Mir'aj (9 copies)**

When Nouf ash-Shrawi, the sixteen-year-old daughter of a wealthy Saudi dynasty, disappears from her home in Jeddah just days before her arranged marriage, desert guide Nayir is asked to bring her home. But when her battered body is found, Nayir feels compelled to uncover the disturbing truth, travelling away from the endless desert to the vast city of Jeddah, where, most troubling of all, Nayir finds himself having to work closely with Katya Hijazi, a forensic scientist. The further into the investigation he goes, the more Nayir finds himself questioning his loyalties: to his friends, faith and culture.

**FODEN, Giles - The Last King of Scotland (12 copies)**

In an incredible twist of fate, a Scottish doctor on a Ugandan medical mission becomes irreversibly entangled with one of the world's most barbaric figures: Idi Amin. Impressed by Dr. Garrigan's brazen attitude in a moment of crisis, the newly self-appointed Ugandan President Amin hand picks him as his personal physician and closest confidante. Though Garrigan is at first flattered and fascinated by his new position, he soon awakens to Amin's savagery - and his own complicity in it. Horror and betrayal ensue as Garrigan tries to right his wrongs and escape Uganda alive.

**FULLER, Claire - Our Endless Numbered Days (12 copies)**

1976: Peggy Hillcoat is eight. She spends her summer camping with her father, playing her beloved record of *The Railway Children* and listening to her mother's grand piano, but her pretty life is about to change. Her survivalist father, who has been stockpiling provisions for the end which is surely coming soon, takes her from London to a cabin in a remote European forest. There he tells Peggy the rest of the world has disappeared.

Her life is reduced to a piano which makes music but no sound, a forest where all that grows is a means of survival. And a tiny wooden hut that is everything.

**GALGUT, Damon - Arctic Summer (12 copies)**

In 1912, the SS Birmingham approaches India. On board is Morgan Forster, novelist and man of letters, who is embarking on a journey of discovery. As Morgan stands on deck, the promise of a strange new future begins to take shape before his eyes. The seeds of a story start to gather at the corner of his mind: a sense of impending menace, lust in close confines, under a hot, empty sky. It will be another twelve years, and a second time spent in India, before *A Passage to India*, E. M. Forster's great work of literature, is published. During these years, Morgan will come to a profound understanding of himself as a man, and of the infinite subtleties and complexity of human nature, bringing these great insights to his remarkable novel. At once a fictional exploration of the life and times of one of Britain's finest novelists - his struggle to find a way of living and being - and a stunningly vivid evocation of the mysterious alchemy of the creative process, *Arctic Summer* is a literary masterpiece, by one of the finest writers of his generation.

**GALGUT, Damon - In a Strange Room (8 copies)**

A young man takes three journeys, through Greece, India and Africa. To those who travel with him and those he meets on the way he is the Follower, the Lover and the Guardian. Yet, despite the man's best intentions, each journey ends in disaster. Together, these three journeys will change his whole life.

**GORING, Rosemary - After Flodden (12 copies)**

1513: The bloody Battle of Flodden is over, the Scottish King is killed, the English rampantly victorious. The fighting may have finished but the real war has only just begun for Louise Brenier, a young woman searching for her brother lost in action at the battle. Louise enlists the help of James IV's right-hand man, Patrick Paniter, who is wracked with guilt at events leading up to the disastrous battle.

**GHOSH, Amitav - River of Smoke (9 copies)**

The 2nd in the Ibis trilogy, this sweeping historical saga opens in Mauritius and follows characters both old and new as they journey by boat to China with the Opium war a constant backdrop to their travels.

**HAMER, Kate - The Girl in the Red Coat (12 copies)**

Carmel Wakeford becomes separated from her mother at a local children's festival, and is found by a man who claims to be her estranged grandfather. He tells her that her mother has had an accident and that she is to live with him for now. As days become weeks with her new family, 8-year-old Carmel realises that this man believes she has a special gift. While her mother desperately tries to find her, Carmel embarks on an extraordinary journey, one that will make her question who she is - and who she might become.

**HAMILTON, Hugo - The Speckled People (12 copies)**

Acclaimed novelist Hugo Hamilton has written his own story - a deeply moving memoir about a whole family's homesickness for a country they can call their own.

**HAYNES, Natalie - The Amber Fury (12 copies)**

When Alex Morris loses her fiancé in dreadful circumstances, she moves from London to Edinburgh to make a break from the past. Alex takes a job at a Pupil Referral Unit, which accepts the students excluded from other schools in the city. These are troubled, difficult kids and Alex is terrified of what she's taken on. There is one class - a group of five teenagers - who intimidate Alex and every other teacher on The Unit. But with the help of the Greek tragedies she teaches, Alex gradually develops a rapport with them. Finding them enthralled by tales of cruel fate and bloody revenge, she even begins to worry that they are taking her lessons to heart, and that a whole new tragedy is being performed, right in front of her.

**HICKEY, Christine Dwyer - Last Train from Liguria (8 copies)**

This is a sweeping tale of consequences set in the 1930s, that spans claustrophobic Dublin, the tense formality of London, and the heat and bustle of the Italian Riviera.

**HILL, Susan - The Beacon (12 copies)**

The farmhouse was called 'The Beacon' and they had been born and reared there, May, Colin, Frank and Berenice, but only Frank had gotten away. He married and moved on but why does no one dare even to mention Frank's name?

**HISLOP, Victoria - The Thread (12 copies)**

Thessaloniki, 1917. As Dimitri Komninos is born, a devastating fire sweeps through the Greek city where Christians, Jews and Muslims live side by side. 5 years later, Katerina Sarafoglou's home in Asia Minor is destroyed by the Turkish army. Losing her mother in the chaos, she flees across the sea to an unknown destination in Greece.

**HOPE, Anna - Wake (12 copies)**

'Hope's unblinking prose is reminiscent of Vera Brittain's classic memoir Testament of Youth' - New York Times Remembrance Day 1920: A wartime secret connects three women's lives: Hettie whose wounded brother won't speak; Evelyn who still grieves for her lost lover; and Ada, who has never received an official letter about her son's death, and is still waiting for him to come home. As the mystery that binds them begins to unravel, far away, in the fields of France, the Unknown Soldier embarks on his journey home. The mood of the nation is turning towards the future - but can these three women ever let go of the past?

**HORLOCK, Mary - The Book of Lies (9 copies)**

When you live on an island as small as Guernsey, it's hard to imagine that secrets can stay secret. But they can and they do. And 15 year old Catherine Rozier knows the best one yet. It's about the night her friend Nicolette disappeared on the cliffs by Clarence Batterie.

**HORNER, Damian - For Better, For Worse (10 copies)**

As he approaches his 40th birthday, Damian Horner wants to see if he can be a good husband and a good father before it's too late. Siobhan, his wife, would like to find out too but has other worries. Told in two voices, this book allows us to hear both sides of their story.

**HURLEY, Andrew Michael - The Loney (12 copies)**

If it had another name, I never knew, but the locals called it the Loney - that strange nowhere between the Wyre and the Lune where Hanny and I went every Easter time with Mummer, Farther, Mr and Mrs Belderboss and Father Wilfred, the parish priest.

It was impossible to truly know the place. It changed with each influx and retreat, and the neap tides would reveal the skeletons of those who thought they could escape its insidious currents. No one ever went near the water. No one apart from us, that is.

I suppose I always knew that what happened there wouldn't stay hidden for ever, no matter how much I wanted it to. No matter how hard I tried to forget . . .

**ISHIGURO, Kazuo - The Buried Giant (12 copies)**

'The Buried Giant' begins as a couple set off across a troubled land of mist and rain in the hope of finding a son they have not seen in years. Sometimes savage, often intensely moving, Kazuo Ishiguro's first novel in a decade is about lost memories, love, revenge and war.

**IVEY, Eowyn - The Snow Child (12 copies)**

Jack and Mabel have staked everything on making a fresh start in the raw Alaskan wilderness. In a moment of tenderness, the pair build a snowman - or rather a snow girl - together. The next morning, all trace of her has disappeared. But Jack can't shake the notion that he glimpsed a small figure running in the trees in the dawn light.

**JAMES, Erica - The Dandelion Years (12 copies)**

Ashcombe was the most beautiful house Saskia had ever seen as a little girl. A rambling pink cottage on the edge of the Suffolk village of Melbury Green, its enchanting garden provided a fairy-tale playground of seclusion, a perfect sanctuary to hide from the tragedy which shattered her childhood. Now an adult, Saskia is still living at Ashcombe and as a book restorer devotes her days tending to the broken, battered books that find their way to her, daydreaming about the people who had once turned their pages. When she discovers a notebook carefully concealed in an old Bible - and realising someone has gone to a great deal of trouble to hide a story of their own - Saskia finds herself drawn into a heart-rending tale of wartime love.

**JANSSON, Tove - The True Deceiver (12 copies)**

This psychological thriller is set in the winter snows of a Swedish hamlet. A strange young woman inveigles herself into the life of an elderly children's illustrator who lives alone in the woods. But why is she doing this? And who ultimately is deceiving whom? By the time the snow thaws both their lives have changed irrevocably.

**JONES, Lloyd - Mister Pip (9 copies)**

On a remote South Pacific island, threatened by uprising, Matilda and her classmates find their lives surprisingly intertwined with those of a boy called Pip, and a man named Mr Dickens.

**KENT, Hannah - Burial Rites (12 copies)**

In northern Iceland, 1829, Agnes Magnúsdóttir is condemned to death for her part in the brutal murder of her lover. Agnes is sent to wait out her final months on the farm of district office Jon Jonsson, his wife and their two daughters. Horrified to have a convicted murderer in their midst, the family avoid contact

with Agnes. Only Toti, the young assistant priest appointed Agnes's spiritual guardian, is compelled to try to understand her. As the year progresses and the hardships of rural life force the household to work side by side.

**KIDD, Sue Monk - The Invention of Wings (12 copies)**

Sarah Grimké is the middle daughter. The one her mother calls difficult and her father calls remarkable. On Sarah's eleventh birthday, Hetty 'Handful' Grimké is taken from the slave quarters she shares with her mother, wrapped in lavender ribbons, and presented to Sarah as a gift. Sarah knows what she does next will unleash a world of trouble. She also knows that she cannot accept. And so, indeed, the trouble begins ...

A powerful, sweeping novel, inspired by real events, and set in the American Deep South in the nineteenth century, *THE INVENTION OF WINGS* evokes a world of shocking contrasts, of beauty and ugliness, of righteous people living daily with cruelty they fail to recognise; and celebrates the power of friendship.

**KINGSOLVER, Barbara - Flight Behaviour (12 copies)**

On the Appalachian Mountains above her home, a young mother discovers a beautiful and terrible marvel of nature. As the world around her is suddenly transformed by a seeming miracle, can the old certainties they have lived by for centuries remain unchallenged?

**KINGSOLVER, Barbara - The Poisonwood Bible (12 copies)**

A fiery evangelist takes his family and mission to the Belgian Congo in 1959, carrying all they need from home, but find it is calamitously transformed on African soil. The tale recounts the family's tragic undoing and reconstruction.

**LANCHESTER, John - Capital (12 copies)**

The residents of Pepys Road, London - a banker and his shopaholic wife, an old woman dying of a brain tumour, a family of Pakistani shop owners, the young football star from Senegal and his minder - all receive an anonymous postcard one day with a simple message: We Want What You Have. Who is behind it? What do they want? As the mystery of the postcards deepens, the world around Pepys Road is turned upside down by the financial crash and all of its residents' lives change beyond recognition over the course of the next year.

**LAURIE, Graham - A Humble Companion (12 copies)**

Nellie Welche's life changes for ever when she's proposed as companion to Princess Sophia, daughter of mad King George III and Queen Charlotte. Taken into the heart of the family, Nellie is privy to the innermost secrets of the rotten House of Hanover. From the first rumblings of the French Revolution to the beginnings of the railway age, Nellie charts their story as she and Sofy support each other through the ups and downs of their extraordinary lives.

**LAWSON, Mary - The Other Side of the Bridge (12 copies)**

Old Jasper lives on the other side of the bridge, but Andy refuses to be intimidated by the old man's evil reputation of eating children for breakfast. He crosses the bridge, and shows Big Jon that although he's small and weak he's as brave as he is.

**LEYSHON, Nell - The Colour of Milk (12 copies)**

1831. 15-year-old Mary begins the difficult task of telling her story. Mary leads a harsh life working on her father's farm. In the summer she is sent to work for the local vicar's invalid wife, where the reasons why she must record the truth of what happens to her are gradually revealed.

**LONG, James - Ferney (12 copies)**

From Saxon times to the present day, this is a pastoral and romantic time-travel novel, featuring the lives, both past and current, of Gally and her lover, Ferney.

**LONGO, Davide - The Last Man Standing (12 copies)**

Borders are closed, banks withhold money, the postal service stalls. Armed gangs of youths roam the countryside. Leonardo was a famous writer before his marriage and career ended. His ex-wife leaves their daughter and her son in his care. If he is to take them to safety, he will need to find a quality he has never possessed: courage.

**LUPTON, Rosamund - The Quality of Silence (12 copies)**

On 24th November Yasmin and her deaf daughter Ruby arrived in Alaska. Within hours they were driving alone across a frozen wilderness where nothing grows, where no one lives, where tears freeze and night will last for another 54 days. They are looking for Ruby's father. Travelling deeper into a silent land. They still cannot find him. And someone is watching them in the dark.

**MCBRIDE, Laura - We are Called to Rise (12 copies)**

The lives of an immigrant boy, a soldier returned from Iraq, and a middle-aged woman whose marriage is crumbling, collide in this remarkable debut.

**MCEWAN, Ian - The Children Act (12 copies)**

A brilliant, emotionally wrenching new novel from the author of Atonement and Amsterdam. Fiona Maye, a leading High Court judge, renowned for her fierce intelligence and sensitivity is called on to try an urgent case. For religious reasons, a seventeen-year-old boy is refusing the medical treatment that could save his life. Time is running out. She visits the boy in hospital - an encounter which stirs long-buried feelings in her and powerful new emotions in the boy. But it is Fiona who must ultimately decide whether he lives or dies and her judgement will have momentous consequences for them both.

**MCGUINNESS, Patrick - The Last Hundred Days (9 copies)**

The socialist state is in crisis, the shops are empty, and old Bucharest vanishes daily under the onslaught of Ceausescu's demolition gangs. The author creates an absorbing sense of time and place as the city struggles to survive this intense moment of history.

**MALIK, Zaiba - We are a Muslim, please (12 copies)**

A memoir of growing up in Bradford as a British Muslim in the 70s and 80s. Zaiba is constantly torn between two identities: British and Muslim. Alienated at school and confused at home, the racism she encounters as a child mirrors the horrors she experiences at the hands of Bangladeshi interrogators as a journalist years later.

**MANDEL, Emily St John - Station Eleven (12 copies)**

Moving backwards and forwards in time, from the glittering years just before the collapse to the strange and altered world that exists 20 years after, 'Station Eleven' charts the unexpected twists of fate that connect six people: famous actor Arthur Leander; Jeevan - warned about the flu just in time; Arthur's first wife Miranda; Arthur's oldest friend Clark; Kirsten, a young actress with the Travelling Symphony; and the mysterious and self-proclaimed 'prophet'.

**MAY, Peter - The Blackhouse (12 copies)**

A brutal killing takes place on the Isle of Lewis, Scotland: a land of harsh beauty and inhabitants of deep-rooted faith. Detective Inspector Fin Macleod is sent from Edinburgh to investigate.

**MAY, Peter - Entry Island (12 copies)**

When Detective Sime Mackenzie boards a light aircraft at Montreal's St. Hubert airfield, he does so without looking back. For Sime, the journey ahead represents an opportunity to escape the bitter blend of

loneliness and regret that has come to characterise his life in the city. Travelling as part of an investigation team, Sime's destination lies in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. Only two kilometres wide and three long, Entry Island is home to a population of around 130: the wealthiest of which has just been discovered murdered.

**MEEKINGS, Sam - Under Fishbone Clouds (12 Copies)**

This is a compelling love story and family saga interwoven with traditional Chinese folktales and myths. Set primarily in the twentieth century, this astounding debut novel follows the lives of Yuying and her husband Jinyi through the dramatic events of China's recent political history.

**MILLER, A.D. - Snowdrops (12 copies)**

A stunning novel of moral ambiguity, uncertainty and corruption...  
Snowdrops! That's what the Russians call them - the bodies that float up into the light in the thaw. Drunks, most of them, and homeless people who just give up and lie down into the whiteness, and murder victims hidden in the drifts by their killers. Nick has a confession. When he worked as a high-flying British lawyer in Moscow, he was seduced by Masha, an enigmatic woman who led him through her city: the electric nightclubs and intimate dachas, the human kindnesses and state-wide corruption. Yet as Nick fell for Masha, he found that he fell away from himself; he knew that she was dangerous, but life in Russia was addictive, and it was too easy to bury secrets - and corpses - in the winter snows...

**MILLER, Andrew - The Faithful Couple (12 copies)**

California, 1993: Neil Collins and Adam Tayler, two young British men on the cusp of adulthood, meet at a hostel in San Diego. They strike up a friendship that, while platonic, feels as intoxicating as a romance; they travel up the coast together, harmlessly competitive, innocently collusive, wrapped up in each other. On a camping trip to Yosemite they lead each other to behave in ways that, years later, they will desperately regret. The story of a friendship built on a shared guilt and a secret betrayal, 'The Faithful Couple' follows Neil and Adam across two decades, through girlfriends and wives, success and failure, children and bereavements, as power and remorse ebb between them.

**MOGGACH, Deborah - The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel (12 copies)**

Enticed by advertisements for a luxury retirement home in India, a group of strangers leave England to begin a new life. On arrival, however, they discover the palace is a shell of its former self, the staff are more than a little eccentric and the days of the Raj appear to be long gone. But, as they soon discover, life and love can begin again, even in the most unexpected circumstances.

**MOSS, Sarah - Bodies of Light (12 copies)**

'Bodies of Light' is a deeply poignant tale of a psychologically tumultuous 19th century upbringing set in the atmospheric world of pre-Raphaelitism and the early suffrage movement. Ally (older sister of May in 'Night Waking'), is intelligent, studious and engaged in an eternal - and losing - battle to gain her mother's approval and affection. Her mother, Elizabeth, is a religious zealot, keener on feeding the poor and saving prostitutes than on embracing the challenges of motherhood. Even when Ally wins a scholarship and is accepted as one of the first female students to read medicine in London, it still doesn't seem good.

**MORGENSTERN, Erin - The Night Circus (12 copies)**

In 1886 a mysterious travelling circus becomes an international sensation. Open only at night, constructed entirely in black white, Le Cirque des Reves delights all who wander its circular paths. But behind the scenes a dangerous game is being played out by two young magicians, who are forced to test the limits of the imagination love.

**MUHSEN, Zana - Sold (12 copies)**

Aged 15 and 13 respectively, Zana Muhsen and her sister left Birmingham to visit relatives in North Yemen, but discovered that their father had sold them into marriage. Unlike her sister, Zana managed to escape, and this is her account of eight years of misery and humiliation.

### **MUNRO, Alice - Dear Life (12 copies)**

Moments of change, chance encounters, the twist of fate that leads a person to a new way of thinking or being: the stories in 'Dear Life' build to form a radiant, indelible portrait of just how dangerous and strange ordinary life can be.

### **NESBIT, TaraShea - The Wives of Los Alamos (12 copies)**

Their average age was 25. They came from Berkeley, Cambridge, Paris, London and Chicago - and arrived in New Mexico ready for adventure or at least resigned to it. But hope quickly turned to hardship in the desolate military town where everything was a secret, including what their husbands were doing at the lab. They lived in barely finished houses, in a town wreathed with barbed wire, all for the benefit of 'the project' that didn't exist as far as the greater world was concerned. They were constrained by the words they couldn't say out loud, the letters they couldn't send home, the freedom they didn't have. But then 'the project' was unleashed and even bigger challenges faced the women of Los Alamos, as they struggled with the burden of their contribution towards the creation of the most destructive force in mankind's history - the atomic bomb.

### **NICOLL, Andrew - The Secret Life and Curious Death of Miss Jean Milne (12 copies)**

*When the door opened and he came out, there came with him the stench of a dead thing, the sweet, sulphurous, warm, rotten chicken smell that only ever comes from unburied flesh.*

A dead body is found in a locked house. It has been stabbed in a frenzy, the hands and feet bound, the skull smashed, false teeth knocked from its jaws. Blood pools around the corpse and drips from the staircase. Yet nothing is missing: money and valuables remain untouched. Who could have murdered an old woman in such a horrifying way? And why?

This is the mystery facing Sergeant John Fraser and Detective Lieutenant Trench when wealthy spinster Miss Jean Milne is murdered in the quiet seaside town of Broughty Ferry. Yet, despite an abundance of clues and apparent witnesses, the investigation proves troublesome: suspects are elusive and Miss Milne herself is found to be far from a model of propriety. And when sensational headlines put pressure on the police force to find a culprit, Fraser and Trench must work fast to prevent the wrong man from going to the gallows. But will they ever unravel the secret life and curious death of Miss Jean Milne?

### **NORTH, Anna - The Life and Death of Sophie Stark (12 copies)**

'If The Girl on the Train was the woman of 2015, then Sophie Stark is this year's model. Anna North's new novel, The Life and Death of Sophie Stark, has been a hit in America, with Lena Dunham describing its protagonist as a "totally unforgettable female antihero". Out now - soon every girl on every train will be reading it' Sunday Times Who is the real Sophie Stark? The Life and Death of Sophie Stark is the story of an enigmatic film director, told by the six people who loved her most. Brilliant, infuriating, all-seeing and unknowable, Sophie Stark makes films said to be 'more like life than life itself'. But her genius comes at a terrible cost: to her husband, to the brother she left behind, and to an actress who knows too much. With shades of We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves, A Visit from the Goon Squad and Where'd You Go, Bernadette, it combines a uniquely appealing sensibility with a compulsively page-turning plot.

### **ONDAATJE, Michael - The English Patient (12 copies)**

This is a tale of love and confusion set at end of the Second World War, following a small group of shell-shocked characters thrown together in an Italian villa.

### **O'NAN, Stewart - West of Sunset (12 copies)**

In 1937, F. Scott Fitzgerald was at a low ebb. In poor health, with his wife consigned to a mental asylum and his finances in ruin, he attempted a new start as a screenwriter in Hollywood. This book follows him

as he arrives on the MGM lot, falls in love with brassy gossip columnist Sheilah Graham, begins work of 'The Last Tycoon', and tries to provide for the absent Zelda and their daughter, Scottie.

**PUNKE, Michael - The Revenant (12 copies)**

Rocky Mountains, 1823. The trappers of the Rocky Mountain Fur Company live a brutal frontier life. Hugh Glass is one of the most respected men in the company, an experienced frontiersman and an expert tracker. But when a scouting mission puts Glass face-to-face with a grizzly bear, he is viciously mauled and not expected to survive. Two men from the company are ordered to remain with him until his inevitable death. But, fearing an imminent attack, they abandon Glass, stripping him of his prized rifle and hatchet. As Glass watches the men flee, he is driven to survive by one all-consuming desire: revenge. With shocking grit and determination, he sets out on a 3000-mile journey across the harsh American frontier, to seek revenge on the men who betrayed him.

**RIORDAN, Kate - The Girl in the Photograph (12 copies)**

It's the summer of 1933 and Alice Eveleigh has arrived at Fiercombe Manor in disgrace. Hiding her shame in this isolated house concealed within a Gloucestershire valley in the care of housekeeper, Mrs Jelphs, Alice soon begins to sense that something isn't quite right within the walls of this beautiful manor - for one thing she is being watched. There are secrets at Fiercombe that those who remain there are determined to keep. Tragedy haunts the empty rooms and foreboding hangs heavy in the stifling heat. Traces of the previous occupant, Elizabeth Stanton, are everywhere, and Alice discovers Elizabeth's life eerily mirrors the path she herself is on. The past is set to repeat its sorrows, and with devastating consequences.

**ROBERTSON, James - Joseph Knight (12 copies)**

Exiled to Jamaica in 1746, Sir John Wedderburn made a fortune, returning to Scotland with Joseph Knight, a black slave. Now, in 1802, Sir John is settling his estate, and wants to find his former slave. Can old wounds that once touched the heart of Scottish law ever heal?

**ROBERTSON, James - The Professor of Truth (12 copies)**

21 years after his wife and daughter were murdered in the bombing of a plane, Alan Tealing still does not know the truth of what really happened. Obsessed by the details of what he has come to call The Case, he is sure that the man convicted of the atrocity was not responsible.

**ROGAN, Charlotte - The Lifeboat (12 copies)**

Charlotte Rogan uses a simple narrative of shipwreck and survival to explore our all-too-human capacity for self-deception.

**SANGHERA, Sathnam - Marriage Material (12 copies)**

To Arjan Banga, returning to the Black Country after the unexpected death of his father, his family's corner shop represents everything he has tried to leave behind - a lethargic pace of life, insular rituals and ways of thinking. But when his mother insists on keeping the shop open, he finds himself being dragged back, forced into big decisions about his imminent marriage back in London and uncovering the history of his broken family - the elopement and mixed-race marriage of his aunt Surinder, the betrayals and loyalties, loves and regrets that have played out in the shop over more than fifty years. Taking inspiration from Arnold Bennett's classic novel *The Old Wives' Tale*, *Marriage Material* tells the story of three generations of a family through the prism of a Wolverhampton corner shop - itself a microcosm of the South Asian experience in the country: a symbol of independence and integration, but also of darker realities.

**SANSOM, CJ - Dominion (12 copies)**

1952. Twelve years have passed since Churchill lost to the appeasers and Britain surrendered to Nazi Germany after Dunkirk. As the long German war against Russia rages on in the east, the British people find themselves under dark authoritarian rule: the press, radio and television are controlled; the streets patrolled by violent auxiliary police and British Jews face ever greater constraints. There are terrible rumours too about what is happening in the basement of the German Embassy at Senate House. Defiance,

though, is growing. In Britain, Winston Churchill's Resistance organization is increasingly a thorn in the government's side. And in a Birmingham mental hospital an incarcerated scientist, Frank Muncaster, may hold a secret that could change the balance of the world struggle for ever. Civil Servant David Fitzgerald, secretly acting as a spy for the Resistance, is given the mission by them to rescue his old friend Frank and get him out of the country. Before long he, together with a disparate group of Resistance activists, will find themselves fugitives in the midst of London's Great Smog; as David's wife Sarah finds herself drawn into a world more terrifying than she ever could have imagined. And hard on their heels is Gestapo Sturmbannfuhrer Gunther Hoth, brilliant, implacable hunter of men.

**SANSOM, CJ - Winter in Madrid (12 copies)**

Part thriller, part love story, this tale follows the fortunes of three young men, navigating the tumultuous world of 1940s Spain. But, as the Second World war draws near, one is sent to spy on another and the ramifications of a tragic love story will haunt them all.

**SELF, Will - Umbrella (12 copies)**

Her father raises his umbrella and, thrusting her in front of him, they cut through the gaggle. Mister Death, the conductor says, tipping his hat, and they squeeze up the stairs and make their way to the front seat.

**SHAFFER, Mary Ann & BARROWS, Annie - The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society (12 copies)**

It's 1946 and author Juliet Ashton can't think what to write next. Out of the blue, she receives a letter from Dawsey Adams of Guernsey - by chance, he's acquired a book that once belonged to her - and, spurred on by their mutual love of reading, they begin a correspondence. When Dawsey reveals that he is a member of the Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society, her curiosity is piqued and it's not long before she begins to hear from other members. As letters fly back and forth with stories of life in Guernsey under the German Occupation, Juliet soon realizes that the society is every bit as extraordinary as its name.

**SHRIVER, Lionel - Big Brother (12 copies)**

When Pandora picks up her older brother Edison at her local Iowa airport, she literally doesn't recognise him. Edison's slovenly habits, appalling diet and know-it-all monologues drive her health-and-fitness freak husband Fletcher insane. Fletcher eventually delivers his wife an ultimatum - it's him or me. Putting her marriage and two adoptive children on the line, Pandora chooses her brother - who, without her support in losing weight, will surely eat himself into an early grave.

**SIMSION, Graeme C - The Rosie Project (12 copies)**

Meet Don Tillman. Don is getting married. He just doesn't know who to yet. But he has designed a very detailed questionnaire to help him find the perfect woman. One thing he already knows, though, is that it's not Rosie. Absolutely, completely, definitely not.

**SLOAN, Robin - Mr Penumbra's 24 hour bookstore (12 copies)**

Recession has shuffled Clay Jannon out of his life as a San Francisco Web-design drone and has landed him a new job working the night shift at Mr. Penumbra's 24-Hour Bookstore. There are only a few customers, but they come in repeatedly and never seem to actually buy anything; instead they simply borrow impossibly obscure volumes from strange corners of the store, all according to some elaborate, long-standing arrangement with the gnomish Mr. Penumbra.

**SPARKS, Nicholas - Lucky One by (12 copies)**

Is there really such a thing as a lucky charm? The hero of this novel believes he's found one in the form of a photograph of a smiling woman he's never met, and who he comes to believe holds the key to his destiny. Sparks is the bestselling author of 'At First Sight' and 'True Believer'.

**SMITH, Rorie - Counterpart (12 copies)**

A decorated World War Two hero and a beautiful Thai lady who has suffered for 25 years with Parkinson's disease are both dead. They are the author's father and wife. This is a memoir of their lives. It is a love story, a story of adventure, a comedy and an homage. There is gambling, a gun, a bizarre manuscript. It is an attempt, by means of fiction, to be true to the spirit of who they were.

**STEDMAN, M L - The Light between Oceans (12 copies)**

Would you accept a chance for happiness even if it wasn't yours to have? This is a story about a lighthouse keeper and his wife, who live on a lonely island with just seagulls, stars and buffeting winds for company. It's a story about right and wrong, and how sometimes they look the same.

**TAN, Twan Eng - The Garden of Evening Mists (12 copies)**

In the lush highlands of Malaya, a woman sets out to build a memorial to her sister, killed at the hands of the Japanese during the brutal Occupation of their country. Yun Ling's quest leads her to 'The Garden of Evening Mists', and to Aritomo, a man of extraordinary skill and reputation, once the gardener of the Emperor of Japan. When she accepts his offer to become his apprentice, she begins a journey into her past, inextricably linked with the secrets of her troubled country's history.

**TOIBIN, Colm - Nora Webster (12 copies)**

It is the 1960s and Nora Webster is living with her two young sons in a small town on the east coast of Ireland. The love of her life, Maurice, has just died so she must work out how to forge a new life for herself. As Nora returns to memories of the happiness of her early marriage, something more painful begins to intrude: memories of her own mother and what brought about the terrifying distance between them.

**TORDAY, Paul - The Girl on the Landing (7 copies)**

Is Michael ill, or could the disturbing events he is witnessing possibly be real? A thrilling novel about identity and love from the author of 'Salmon Fishing in the Yemen'.

**TORDAY, Paul - The Legacy of Hartlepool Hall (7 copies)**

Ed Hartlepool has been living in self-imposed exile, but with a settlement regarding his inheritance looming, he must return to Hartlepool Hall. On his return, he discovers that his father has left him, along with the house, a 7 million tax bill, two massive overdrafts, an 80-year-old butler, and a country estate that is creaking at the seams.

**TREMAIN, Rose - The Colour (12 copies)**

Joseph and Harriet Blackstone emigrate from Norfolk to New Zealand in search of new beginnings and prosperity. But the harsh land near Christchurch threatens to destroy them almost before they begin. When Joseph finds gold in the creek he is seized by a rapturous obsession with the voluptuous riches awaiting him deep in the earth.

**TYLER, Anne - A Spool of Blue Thread (12 copies)**

'It was a beautiful, breezy, yellow-and-green afternoon'. This is the way Abby Whitshank always begins the story of how she and Red fell in love that day in July 1959. The whole family on the porch, relaxed, half-listening as their mother tells the same tale they have heard so many times before. And yet this gathering is different. Abby and Red are getting older, and decisions must be made about how best to look after them and their beloved family home. From that porch we spool back through three generations of the Whitshanks, witnessing the events, secrets and unguarded moments that have come to define who and what they are. And while all families like to believe they are special, round that kitchen table over all those years we see played out the hopes and fears, the rivalries and tensions of families everywhere - the essential nature of family life.

**VAN EMDEN, Richard - The Soldier's War (12 copies)**

'The Soldier's War' traces the Great War chronologically, taking stories from each year of the fighting and following the British Tommy through devastating battles and trench warfare to the armistice in 1918.

**WAAL, de Kit - My Name is Leon (12 copies)**

A brother chosen. A brother left behind. And a family where you'd least expect to find one. Leon is nine, and has a perfect baby brother called Jake. They have gone to live with Maureen, who has fuzzy red hair like a halo, and a belly like Father Christmas. But the adults are speaking in low voices, and wearing pretend faces. They are threatening to give Jake to strangers. Since Jake is white and Leon is not. As Leon struggles to cope with his anger, certain things can still make him smile - like Curly Wurllys, riding his bike fast downhill, burying his hands deep in the soil, hanging out with Tufty (who reminds him of his dad), and stealing enough coins so that one day he can rescue Jake and his mum. Evoking a Britain of the early eighties, *My Name is Leon* is a heart-breaking story of love, identity and learning to overcome unbearable loss. Of the fierce bond between siblings. And how - just when we least expect it - we manage to find our way home.

**WARD, Amanda Eyre - The Same Sky (12 copies)**

Alice and her husband, Jake, own a barbecue restaurant in Austin, Texas. Hardworking and popular in their community, they have a loving marriage and thriving business, but Alice still feels that something is missing, lying just beyond reach. Carla is a strong-willed young girl who's had to grow up fast, acting as caretaker to her six-year-old brother, Junior. Years ago, her mother left the family behind in Honduras to make the arduous, illegal journey to Texas. But when Carla's grandmother dies and violence in the city escalates, Carla takes fate into her own hands and, with Junior, joins the thousands of children making their way across Mexico to America, facing great peril for the chance at a better life.

**WATERS, Sarah - The Paying Guests (12 copies)**

There came the splash of water and the rub of heels as Mrs Barber stepped into the tub. After that there was a silence, broken only by the occasional echoey plink of drips from the tap. Frances had been picturing her lodgers in purely mercenary terms - as something like two great waddling shillings. But this, she thought, was what it really meant to have paying guests: this odd, unintimate proximity, this rather peeled-back moment, where the only thing between herself and a naked Mrs Barber was a few feet of kitchen and a thin scullery door. An image sprang into her head: that round flesh, crimsoning in the heat.

**WOOD, Naomi - Mrs Hemingway (12 copies)**

In the dazzling summer of 1926, Ernest Hemingway and his wife Hadley travel from their home in Paris to a villa in the south of France. They swim, play bridge and drink gin. But wherever they go they are accompanied by the glamorous and irrepressible Fife. Fife is Hadley's best friend. She is also Ernest's lover. Hadley is the first Mrs. Hemingway, but neither she nor Fife will be the last. Over the ensuing decades, Ernest's literary career will blaze a trail, but his marriages will be ignited by passion and deceit. Four extraordinary women will learn what it means to love the most famous writer of his generation, and each will be forced to ask herself how far she will go to remain his wife.

**WOOD, Tom - Better off Dead (12 copies)**

Victor is the face in the crowd you don't see, a perfect assassin with nothing to live for. But when an old friend turns to him for help, he finds he can't refuse. For once his objective isn't to kill, but to protect. Hunted through the streets of London by ruthless enemies, Victor needs to be more than just a bodyguard. But his every move leads danger closer to the very person he's vowed to defend.